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The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine.

VOL. II. APRIL, 1901. No. 2.

PAPERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN SOUTH CAROLINA, JUNE-NOVEMBER, 1775.

[*Continued from the January number.*]

[82.]

[CAPT. SAMUEL WISE TO THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY.]

Addressed: To
The Hoñoble the Council of Safety—
address

To the Hoñoble the Councill of Safety
Honoble Gentlemen

I am Extremely sorry any incident should have arisen that wuld oblige me to send the Commission you were pleased to honour me with unto Mr Drayton, for haveing entered into the servis, with a heart full of Zeal for the Legal freedom of myself & fellow subjects of this Province in Particular and the Constitutional Rights of America in Generall, so nothing less than being dishonoured by a suspicion of want of Integrity to the great Cause of Constitu-

tional Liberty, wuld have induced me to have taken this step, & I hope your Honours will be pleased to consider the bitterness of my feelings when Mr Drayton Refused to tell me the name of the Man who had thus disgraced me, but as my friends here seem to think that I have been rather hasty, if your Honours too should be of that Opinion, I shall be Exceedingly Greived, for it was never my intention to give the least offence, and beg leave to Submitt myself and Cause to your honours Judgment

I am with great Respect
your Honors
Charlestown moste Obedt Humble servant
30 Sepr 1775 Saml Wise[70]

Endorsed: Capt Sam Wise
30 Sepr 1775.
Read in Council 1st Octob.
Referred to Mr Drayton—

[83.]

[THE GENERAL COMMITTEE TO THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY.]

In General Committee.[71]

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[70] Samuel Wise was senior captain in the Rangers (See vol. I, p. 189). His resignation, as above, was not accepted. In September, 1776, the Rangers were taken upon the Continental establishment as a full infantry regiment, and on November 23rd Lt. Col. Thomson was appointed Colonel; Major Mayson was appointed Lt. Col., and Capt. Wise Major (Gibbes' *Documentary History of the American Revolution*, 1776-82, pp. 45-46). Maj. Wise was killed at the siege of Savannah, October 9, 1779.

[71] On July 6, 1774, a convention of the people of South Carolina met in Charles Town and passed resolutions condemning the British Parliament for shutting up the port of Boston, and looking to protection against oppressive measures. Before adjourning this Convention selected a committee of ninety-nine "to act as a General Committee to correspond with the committees of the other Colonies, and to do all matters and things necessary to carry out the resolutions of the convention." It was stipulated that twenty-one of this committee should

Charles-Town, 2d October, 1775.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Council of Safety, to direct a proper Intrenchment to be made, with all possible Expedition, on the Neck, at a proper Distance from Charles-Town; as a secure Retreat for the Inhabitants, should they be driven from the said Town.

A true Copy.

Pet^{r} Timothy, Sect^{ry}

Endorsed: P. Timothy
2^{d} Octob^{r} 1775

[84.]

[COMMISSION TO GEORGE GALPHIN.]

To George Galphin—of Silver Bluff. Esq^{r}

By the Council of Safety for South Carolina convened at Charles Town the 2^{d} October 1775— ———

By virtue of Authorities vested in us by the provincial Congress of this Colony met at Charles Town in June last & confirmed by the Representatives of the United Colonies in America Assembled at Philadelphia in July following :

We do nominate & appoint You the said George Galphin Esquire to be a Commissioner for Indian affairs in the Southern department. AND. you are hereby authorized & empowered to treat with the said Indians in the name & on the behalf of the united Colonies in order to preserve peace and friendship with the said Indians and to prevent their taking any part in the present Commotions & you are to follow and obey all such Orders &

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constitute a quorum and that the power of the General Committee was to continue until the next general meeting. This committee was continued until the formation of the independent government in March, 1776. Up to the formation of the Council of Safety in June, 1775, it was practically the executive power in South Carolina. After the formation of the Council of Safety its offices were chiefly advisory 'though it still retained some executive powers.

directions in Indian affairs as you may now or shall from time to time hereafter receive from the Representatives of the United Colonies, from the provincial Congress or from the Council of Safety for this Colony for the time being— And for all & every Act which you shall do or cause to be done by virtue of this Commission—this shall be your Warrant & Indempnification. Given under our hands & Seals at Charles Town aforesaid on the said 2d Octob 1775—

Endorsed: Copy 2d October 1775—
To George Galphin [72]

[85.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE GEORGIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.]

Charles Town So Carolina 3d October 1775—

Gentlemen

We beg leave to refer you to our Letter of the 29th Ultº which went by the hands of Mr Tebout from hence to Beaufort where Capt. Joiner was to take & convey it to you immediately—[73] We have not heard from you by the last mail & have nothing particular to trouble you with by the return but a Copy of the Commission which we have judged proper to give to Mr Galphin & Mr Wilkinson respectively—which, 'though we do not presume to offer it as a plan, may serve to give you information.—

We find that the Cherokees mentioned in our last were killed & wounded in your Colony, we think it very necessary to Advertise & offer a reward for discovery of the perpetrators— If you are of this opinion we will readily second you in the measure—

Endorsed: Copy 3d Octobr 1775

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[72] On the margin of the commission is written: "To Edward Wilkinson of Keowee, Esquire," and the inference is that an exact copy was sent to Wilkinson. See No. 85.

[73] See January, 1901, magazine, p. 24.

[86.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE GEORGIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.]

Gentlemen.

I am ordered by the General Committee to inclose a Resolution Entered into this day in Commee on the Case of James Brisbane Esquire[74] to which we beg leave to refer—the Commee. request you to lay the Resolution before the proper board or Commee. in your Town in order that our Enemies may not receive shelter & comfort among our friends——

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obed^{t} Serv^{t}
Charles Town H L President
3^{d} October 1775—

Under Cover as usual to W. Erven Esquire
& sent to Philip Will to go by Post
Council of Safety at Savanna—

Endorsed: Copy 3^{d} Octob^{r} 1775—
To the Council of Safety
at Savanna

[87.]

[COL. JOSEPH GLOVER TO HENRY LAURENS.]

Addressed: To
The Hon^{ble} Henry Laurens Esqr^{r}
President of the Council of Safety
Charlestown

Sir Octo^{r} y^{e} 2^{d} 1775

Several Men, Who's Names are Subscribed To the within Assosiation on Edisto Island, To form themselves into a Volunteer Comp^{y} agreable to a Resolution of the Provincial

[74] James Brisbane was one of the congratulators of Lord Cornwallis on his victory at Camden, Aug. 16, 1780, and was among those whose property was confiscated and persons banished by the Jacksonborough Assembly of 1782.

Congress, have made Applycation To me to Procure, Commissions for the following Gentlemen to Command them Viz. Joseph Jenkins To Be their Captain Archibald Whaley First Lieut^{n}, Joseph Fickling Jun^{r} Second Lieut^{t} and Jeremiah Eaton Third Lieut^{t}, or Ensign I have Apply'd To the Governor Sometime ago for Those very Commissions, with some others which he refused to grant, I, therefore, Now Pray the Council of Safety will Direct Commissions To be Made Out for the Above Gentlemen If Approved of By them—I believe, it will Be Necessary for me To return the Inclos'd Paper, to the Officers, when The Council of Safety have done with it.

I am

N:B: Sir

Please Procure also an with Regard your

Ensigns Commission for the very Hum^{l} Serv^{t}

Edisto Island, Old Militia, Company[75] Joseph Glover[76]

They have Choose M^{r} John Adams
to be Ensign of that Company

We the Subscribers do agree to Form ourselves into a Volunteer Company Under the Command of the Following Officers M^{r} Joseph Jenkins Captain M^{r} Archibald Whaley First-Lieutenant M^{r} Joseph Fickling Jun^{r} Second Liutenant The Uniform to be a Blue Coat with White Cuffs and Lappels with Jacketts & Breches of White, with a Fann Tail Hatt, To meett at least once a Week to goe through the Exercise We Farther Agree to the Orders of the Above Officers till such time Commission is Granted

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[75] See January, 1901, magazine, p. 6.

[76] From the private collection of A. S. Salley, Jr. See *The Sunday News*, Charleston, S. C., March 5, 1899. The roll accompanying the letter was published in the same paper. The roll belonged to the collection left by the late Wm. Gilmore Simms, but is now owned by Maj. John Jenkins, of Charleston.

Nath[l] Adams	John Adams	John McMahan
Charles Elliott	W[m] Stanyarne	Ric[d] Cox
Samuel Eaton	Samuel Evans	William Mikell
Nath[l] Morgan Jn[r]	William Wilson	David Adams Jn[r]
James Crawford	Jeremiah Fickling	Whitem[h] Seabrook
W[m] Furguson	John Fickling	
Ja[s] Murray	W[m] Evans	
Benjamin Jenkins	Joshua Eaton	Ezekiel Wise
George McNorny	John Gregory	John Hanahan
John Theüs	Micah Jenkins	Thomas
John Wilson	Thomas Whaley	Elliott
John McLeod	Thomas Wescoat	Joseph Maxey
Rich[d] Jenkins	Benj[n] Edings	Robert Maxey
William Bonsall	William Reynolds	
Florence Flinn	George Cheney	
Isom Lowrey	Stephen Dulzer	
W[m] Hanahan	John Docherty	
Jeremiah Eaton	Jn[o] White	
Charles Flinn	John Desberry	
	Tho[s] Skinner	

On reverse of page: M[r] Jeremiah Eaton is allso appointed as Third Lieutenant

Endorsed: Coll[o] Jos Glover
2[d] Octob 1775 presented to Council the
3[d]
Commissions signed
the

[88.]

[PAPERS TRANSMITTED TO THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY BY CAPT. EZEKIEL POLK.]

So. Carolina / New acquisition } Thaddeus Reed & Robert Davies } Came before me and Voluntarily made Oath that he will not Lift arms against the

Americans in their present Contest with Great Britain, nor do any thing by word nor Action, that he shall Know to be against the American Cause.

Sworn before me this 30th Sepr 1775
Ezekl Polk ss

Endorsed by Polk: Reed &
Davies'
Oaths

South Carolina }
New acquisition } William West appeared before me and made Oath that he will not Lift arms against the americans in their present Contest with Great Britain, nor do any thing by word or action which He shall Know to be against the american Cause

Sworn to before me this 2d October 1775 } William West
Ezekl Polk ss

Endorsed by Polk: West
Deposition

South Carolina }
New acquisition } At a meeting of the Committee of this District on the 4th October 1775

Ordered, that in pursuance of the Recommendation of the Council of Safety of the 20th Sepr 1775 One large and commodious stockade fort be Built, in this District, as Near to the Centre of the Regiment, as Conveniency will permit.

A true Copy by order of Comittee
Ezekl Polk president[77]

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[77]In June, 1775, the Rrovincial Congress elected Ezekiel Polk, then lieutenant colonel of the New Acquisition regiment, second captain in the regiment of Rangers (Ramsay's *Revolution of South Carolina*, Vol. I, pp. 34 and 36. *Collections South Carolina Historical Society*, Vol. 2, p. 24.) He organized his company and joined Major Mayson's camp at Ninety Six, Sunday, July 23, 1775, (vol I. of this magazine, p. 68),

[89.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO GEORGE GALPHIN]

Ch. Town 4 Octob 1775—

Sir.

Since closing our packet which you will receive with this we have Resolved to send to Keowee in order to be properly distributed among the Cherokees One Thousand pounds weight of Gun powder & 2000l Lead of which you will be pleased to inform Mr Wilkinson immediately & that he may expect it on the 20 Inst or a day or two sooner—We apprehend he will have sufficient time to make the distribution & for meeting you somewhere in the way to Salisbury & that you may both arrive at that town before the Day appointed—but in order to save time we repeat our desire that you will send a Messenger to him without delay & draw upon us for the expence.

By order of the Council
of Safety

H L
Presdt—

G G Esquire—

Endorsed: Copy to Geo Galphin
4 Octob. 1775
by a Man from Ph.
Wills—

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after having had his progress to that point interrupted by Capt. Robert Cuningham's party of Tories. After remaining in Major Mayson's camp just a week he marched his men out of it on Saturday, July 29th, and sent them to their homes, and sent Maj. Mayson a letter announcing that he had quit the service. (Vol. 1, p. 70, Salley's *History of Orangeburg County, 1704-1782*, p. 414.) He afterwards adjusted his troubles with the Council of Safety and raised a company of volunteer militia and did good service in the "Snow Campaign" of November and December, 1775. Subsequent to the fall of Charles Town he was colonel of one of the regiments of "State Troops" under Gen. Sumter's command. He was a brother of Col. Thomas Polk, one of the Revolutionary leaders in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and of the same family as President Polk.

[90.]

[RETURN OF CAPT. THOMAS WOODWARD'S COMPANY FROM AUG, 1ST TO SEPT 20TH 1775[78].]

A Return to the pay Master of the officers non commissioners and privates of the Eight Company of Rangers commanded by Colo William Thomson from the 1st Day of August to the 20th of Sept 1775.—

Thomas Woodward Capt	51 Days at 70/		£	186	10	
1t Lieut Richard Winn	51 Ditto .. 45/			114	—	
2n Lieut John Woodward	Ditto	45/		114	—	
Serjts John Smith	Ditto			41	13	4
William Boyd	Ditto			41	13	4
Drumr William Wilson	Ditto	a 20 pr Month		33	6	8
John Owens	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
James Picket	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
James Owens	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
John Carr	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
John Carson	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
John Henderson	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Daniel Oaks	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Benj.. Mitchell	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Francis Henderson	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
William Henderson	Ditto.	Ditto		33	6	8
Benj. May	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Jacob Frazier	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Henry Wimpey	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Charnel Durham	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
James Anderson	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
William Rayford	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Mathew Rayford	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
			£	1089	16	8
Brought Over Dm			£	1089	16	8
Benjamin McGraw	51 days	Ditto		33	6	8
Augustin Hancock	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
William Owens	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
John Mc Daniel	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Francis Mc Daniel	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Thomas Gather	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Prichard Stone	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
John Jacobs	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
John Bell	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Joseph Owens	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Thomas Winingham	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
Edward Mc Graw	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
William Duggins	Ditto	Ditto		33	6	8
		Total———	£	1523	3	4

[78] For the first return of this company, to August 1st, 1775, see Vol. I. of this magazine, pp. 122-123.

Thomas Woodward maketh Oath, That the above Pay Bill is just & true to the 20th Septemr 1775—
Sworn to before me this 4th day of Octr 1775
Tho: Charlton

[*To be continued in the next number of this Magazine.*]